



NEWS RELEASE

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Compton Man Charged with Murder After Child Dies From Injuries

Prosecutors amended charges yesterday after a 13-month-old child died from injuries reportedly sustained by his mother's boyfriend after a beating, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Rodrigo Hernandez of Compton was originally charged in case TA137386 with attempted murder and assault on a child becoming comatose.

On Tuesday, prosecutors dismissed the charges and filed one count each of murder and assault on a child causing death in the same case.

Hernandez pleaded not guilty and his bail was set at \$2.03 million.

Prosecutors said on June 7, Hernandez was reportedly watching his girlfriend's toddler son while the mother was in another room in the apartment.

Soon after, family members alerted the mother that the child was acting strangely. When the mother went to the child, the boy began to have seizures. Additionally, bruising started to develop on his body, prosecutors said.

Paramedics were called and the toddler was taken to the hospital where he remained for several weeks until his death on June 26.

Hernandez is scheduled to return to court on July 22 for a preliminary hearing setting in Department D of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.